

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. Legal Department

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July 20, 2004

The Honorable Bruce Duke Executive Director Public Service Commission of South Carolina Post Office Drawer 11649 Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Re:

Application of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. to Provide In-Region InterLATA Services Pursuant to Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

Docket No. 2001-209-C

Dear Mr. Duke:

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") respectfully submits this letter to inform the Public Service Commission of South Carolina that BellSouth is withdrawing its Statement of Generally Available Terms and Conditions ("SGAT"), including without limitation any modifications and/or replacements to the SGAT that may have been filed in the past.

This action is being taken in response to the mandate issued by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia effectuating its Opinion released on March 2, 2004. By virtue of this mandate, as of June 16, 2004, certain unbundling rules adopted by the FCC in its Triennial Review Order (TRO) on October 2, 2003 are vacated. In addition, and as a result of the Court's mandate, the FCC has indicated that it expects to issue permanent rules by the end of the year. As such, BellSouth's SGAT, including any modifications and/or replacements to the SGAT that may have been filed in the past, are no longer compliant with current law.

As the Public Service Commission of South Carolina has noted in the past, the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 permits, but does not require, an ILEC like BellSouth to file an SGAT. However, no CLEC has ever adopted BellSouth's SGAT in South Carolina. Instead, the numerous CLECs that have entered the South Carolina

See Order No. 2002-77 in Docket No. 2001-209-C at pp. 16-17.

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market have done so either by executing BellSouth's standard interconnection agreement² (the current version of which is available for viewing at www.interconnection.bellsouth.com), by lawfully adopting other interconnection agreements, or by negotiating or arbitrating interconnection agreements with BellSouth. Each of these options remains available to CLECs following BellSouth's withdrawal of the SGAT.

I am serving a copy of this letter on all parties of record as indicated on the attached Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,

Patrick W. Turner

PWT/nml

cc: All Parties of Record

PC Docs #544296

This standard interconnection agreement provides a set of terms and conditions from which any CLEC in South Carolina can order interconnection facilities and UNEs or can resell BellSouth service to compete with BellSouth in the local market.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)	
)	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
COUNTY OF RICHLAND)	

The undersigned, Nyla M. Laney, hereby certifies that she is employed by the Legal Department for BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth") and that she has caused BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.'s letter withdrawing its Statement of Generally Available Terms and Conditions ("SGAT") in Docket No. 2001-209-C to be served upon the following this July 20, 2004:

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